

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 4, 2004

CONTACT: MARIL E. ALSUP
Public Affairs Specialist
(413) 253-4314 or
maril.alsup@ma.usda.gov

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS BARRE'S NEW WATER TANK

BARRE, MA – USDA Rural Development State Director, David Tuttle announced today that Barre has received a \$500,000 Water and Waste Disposal Loan to fund the construction of a new water tank and related site improvements. The 500,000-gallon water tank will be placed near the towns' existing 300,000-gallon tank off of Sanderson Road.

The decision to add a third water storage tank came after an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) survey determined that the towns' two existing tanks, on Sanderson and Root Roads were undersized for their intended use. The EPA Drinking Water Program survey determined that water storage capacity in Barre was somewhat deficient and that increased water volume and flow would benefit fire protection and domestic use. The town is also currently developing a Master Plan to address areas in the distribution system that could be improved to enhance customer service within the network.

In May of this year Barre received over \$1.2 million in loans and grants from USDA Rural Development to make improvements at the town's wastewater treatment facility which will service 2,013 residents of the community. Two years ago, Barre's wastewater treatment facility was awarded over \$900,000 in USDA funds as a result of the 2002 Farm Bill. The funds were used to finance the first phase of upgrades to the facility.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

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